(c) and (d) To improve the recovery factor from the existing fields, ONGC has taken up its 15 fields for implementing Enhanced Oil Recovery (FOR)/Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) schemes at an estimated investment of over Rs. 10,000 crore which would also help in accelerating oil production from these fields.

(e) Does not arise.

Imports after dismantling of APM

1609. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Administered Price Mechanism for petroleum products is scheduled to be dismantled by 1st April, 2002;

(b) if so, what would be the likely import thereafter; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to avoid price fluctuations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given in Statement. (*See* below).

(c) Details in this regard have not been finalized as yet.

Statement

The projected imports of crude oil and products during 2002-03

(Thousand Metric Tonnes)

CRUDE IMPORTS	95,159
PRODUCTS	
LPG	1,275
FO/LSHS	487
LOBS	369

Fluctuation in crude oil prices

1610. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether crude prices in international market soared with the terrorists

blasts in American cities on September, 11, 2001; if so, how the crude import prices per barrel have increased/fluctuated during the following months; and

(b) how the crude import bill for the current year has risen, taken in the context of Budget perceptions for the year, the Government's reactions thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) After the World Trade Centre disaster in USA on September 11, 2001, price of brent crude oil first increased from the level of US$ 28.42 per barrel on 11th September to US$ 29.15 per barrel on 14th September. Thereafter, the price of crude oil have been showing as steady decline.

(b) Decline in the prices of crude oil and petroleum products in the international market will have a favourable impact on the oil import bill for the year 2001-2002.

Fuel testing laboratories

1611. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that adulteration of petrol and diesel largely goes undetected;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether sufficient number of fuel testing laboratories are available in the country; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Oil Marketing Companies have evolved a system of periodic/surprise checks of retail outlets for detecting adulteration. Apart from this, the Anti Adulteration Cell set up in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas also carries out inspection of retail oulets for checking adulteration.

(c) and (d) Oil Companies have a number of laboratories at their refineries/installations apart from having Mobile laboratories in the country for testing of fuels. Oil Companies augment the number of laboratories from time to time, if required. In addition, various other agencies like Indian